

U.S. Department of Justice

Joshua S. Levy Acting United States Attorney District of Massachusetts

Main Reception: (617) 748-3100

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse 1 Courthouse Way Suite 9200 Boston, Massachusetts 02210

September 5, 2023

Thomas Kerner, Esq. 240 Commercial St, Suite 5A Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Re: <u>United States v. Santo Feliberty</u>

Criminal No. 23-CR-10127-LTS

Dear Attorney Kerner:

The United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts (the "U.S. Attorney") and your client, Santo Feliberty ("Defendant"), agree as follows, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B):

1. Change of Plea

At the earliest opportunity, Defendant will plead guilty to Counts One, Count Eight, Count Nine, Count Ten, Count Eleven, and Count Thirteen of the Indictment:

- Count One, Conspiracy to Transport Stolen Property Valued Over \$5,000 in Interstate Commerce, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371;
- Count Eight, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Valued Over \$5,000, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2314;
- Count Nine, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Valued Over \$5,000, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2314;
- Count Ten, Conspiracy to Commit Bank Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371;
- Count Eleven, Bank Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2113(b); and
- Count Thirteen, Felon in Possession of a Firearm and/or Ammunition, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1).

Defendant admits that Defendant committed the crimes specified in these counts and is in fact guilty of each.

2. Penalties

Defendant faces the following maximum penalties:

- a. Conspiracy to Transport Stolen Property Valued Over \$5,000 in Interstate Commerce, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371: not more than five years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, forfeiture, and restitution.
- b. Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Valued Over \$5,000, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2314: not more than ten years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, forfeiture, and restitution.
- c. Conspiracy to Commit Bank Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371: not more than five years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, forfeiture, and restitution.
- d. Bank Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2113(b): not more than ten years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, forfeiture, and restitution.
- e. Felon in Possession of a Firearm and/or Ammunition, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1): not more than ten years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, and forfeiture.

Defendant understands that, if Defendant is not a United States citizen by birth, pleading guilty may affect Defendant's immigration status. Defendant agrees to plead guilty regardless of any potential immigration consequences, even if Defendant's plea results in being automatically removed from the United States.

3. <u>Sentencing Guidelines</u>

The U.S. Attorney agrees to take the position, based on the following calculations, that Defendant's total "offense level" under the Guidelines is 27:

- (a) Counts One, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven:
 - 1. Defendant's base offense level is 6 (USSG § 2B1.1(a)(2));
 - 2. Defendant's offense level is increased by 14, because Defendant is responsible for a loss amount greater than \$550,000 (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(1)(J));

- 3. Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense involved more than 10 victims (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(2)(A)(i));
- 4. Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense involved receiving stolen property, and the defendant was a person in the business of receiving and selling stolen property (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(4));
- 5. Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense involved sophisticated means (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(10)(C));
- 6. Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense involved an organized scheme to steal vehicle parts (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(15));
- 7. Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense (A) involved the conscious or reckless risk of death or serious bodily injury or (B) possession of a dangerous weapon (including a firearm) in connection with the offense (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(16));
- 8. Total Offense Level: 30

(b) Count Thirteen

- 1. Defendant's base offense level is 14, because the Defendant was a prohibited person at the time of the offense (USSG § 2K2.1(a)(4)(B)(ii)(I)); and
- 2. Defendant's offense level is increased by 4, because Defendant used or possessed any firearm or ammunition in connection with another felony offense.
- 3. Total Offense Level: 18

(c) Grouping

Pursuant to USSG § 3D1.2(d), Counts One, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven form a single group are closely related (Group One). Count Thirteen forms a second group (Group Two). The Offense Level for Group One is 30. The Offense Level for Group Two is 18. Pursuant to USSG § 3D1.3(a), the offense level applicable to the Group is the offense level for the most serious of the counts comprising the Group. Group Two is 9 or more levels less serious than Group One and does not increase the Total Offense Level. *See* USSG § 3D1.4(c).

(d) Acceptance of Responsibility

Based on Defendant's prompt acceptance of personal responsibility for the offense of conviction in this case, the U.S. Attorney agrees to recommend that the Court reduce Defendant's Total Adjusted Offense Level by 3 levels under USSG § 3E1.1.

Defendant understands that the Court is not required to follow this calculation or even to sentence Defendant within the Guidelines and that Defendant may not withdraw Defendant's guilty plea if Defendant disagrees with how the Court calculates the Guidelines or with the sentence the Court imposes.

With the exception of the Loss Amount under USSG § 2B1.1(b)(1), Defendant reserves the right to contest the applicability of certain offense characteristics set forth in the government's calculation above.

Defendant also understands that the government will object to any reduction in Defendant's sentence based on acceptance of responsibility if: (a) at sentencing, Defendant (directly or through counsel) indicates that Defendant does not fully accept responsibility for having engaged in the conduct underlying each of the elements of the crimes to which Defendant is pleading guilty; or (b) by the time of sentencing, Defendant has committed a new federal or state offense, or has in any way obstructed justice.

If, after signing this Agreement, Defendant's criminal history score or Criminal History Category is reduced, the U.S. Attorney reserves the right to seek an upward departure under the Guidelines.

Nothing in this Plea Agreement affects the U.S. Attorney's obligation to provide the Court and the U.S. Probation Office with accurate and complete information regarding this case.

4. Sentence Recommendation

The U.S. Attorney agrees to recommend the following sentence to the Court:

- a) incarceration for not more than 126 months;
- b) a fine within the Guidelines sentencing range as calculated by the U.S. Attorney, unless the Court finds that Defendant is not able, and is not likely to become able, to pay a fine;
- c) 36 months of supervised release;
- d) a mandatory special assessment of \$600, which Defendant must pay to the Clerk of the Court by the date of sentencing;
- e) restitution to be determined; and
- f) forfeiture as set forth in Paragraph 6.

Irrespective of the Guidelines sentencing range as calculated by the Court at sentencing, Defendant agrees that at sentencing he will recommend a sentence not less than 57 months.

Defendant agrees that all criminal monetary penalties, including special assessment, restitution, forfeiture, and/or fine imposed shall be due and payable immediately, and further agrees that any Court-ordered repayment schedule does not preclude further enforcement or collection by the United States.

5. Waiver of Appellate Rights and Challenges to Conviction or Sentence

Defendant has the right to challenge Defendant's conviction and sentence on "direct appeal." This means that Defendant has the right to ask a higher court (the "appeals court") to look at what happened in this case and, if the appeals court finds that the trial court or the parties made certain mistakes, overturn Defendant's conviction or sentence. Also, in some instances, Defendant has the right to file a separate civil lawsuit claiming that serious mistakes were made in this case and that Defendant's conviction or sentence should be overturned.

Defendant understands that Defendant has these rights, but now agrees to give them up. Specifically, Defendant agrees that:

- a) Defendant will not challenge Defendant's <u>conviction</u> on direct appeal or in any other proceeding, including in a separate civil lawsuit; and
- b) Defendant will not challenge Defendant's <u>sentence</u>, including any court orders related to forfeiture, restitution, fines or supervised release, on direct appeal or in any other proceeding, including in a separate civil lawsuit.

Defendant understands that, by agreeing to the above, Defendant is agreeing that Defendant's conviction and sentence will be final when the Court issues a written judgment after the sentencing hearing in this case. That is, after the Court issues a written judgment, Defendant will lose the right to appeal or otherwise challenge Defendant's conviction and sentence [regardless of whether Defendant later changes Defendant's mind or finds new information that would have led Defendant not to agree to give up these rights in the first place.

Defendant is agreeing to give up these rights at least partly in exchange for concessions the U.S. Attorney is making in this Agreement.

The parties agree that, despite giving up these rights, Defendant keeps the right to later claim that Defendant's lawyer rendered ineffective assistance of counsel, or that the prosecutor or a member of law enforcement involved in the case engaged in misconduct serious enough to entitle Defendant to have Defendant's conviction or sentence overturned.

6. <u>Forfeiture</u>

Defendant understands that the Court will, upon acceptance of Defendant's guilty plea, enter an order of forfeiture as part of Defendant's sentence, and that the order of forfeiture may include assets directly traceable to Defendant's offense, assets used to facilitate Defendant's offense, substitute assets and/or a money judgment equal to the value of the property derived from, or otherwise involved in, the offense.

The assets to be forfeited specifically include, without limitation, the following:

- a. \$900 in U.S. currency seized from Santo Feliberty on April 12, 2023 at 381 Parker Street, Springfield, MA;
- b. Springfield, XD-9, 9mm firearm, bearing serial number BY298910;
- c. 256 rounds of 9mm ammunition;
- d. 104 rounds of .45 caliber ammunition;
- e. 500 rounds of .22 caliber ammunition;
- f. 20 rounds of .44 caliber ammunition; and
- g. 51 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition.

Defendant admits that these assets are subject to forfeiture on the grounds that they were involved in or used in any knowing commission of Defendant's offense and/or constitute, or are derived from, proceeds of Defendant's offense. Defendant agrees to consent to the entry of orders of forfeiture for such property and waives the requirements of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), 32.2, and 43(a) regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, advice regarding the forfeiture at the change-of-plea hearing, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Defendant understands and agrees that forfeiture shall not satisfy or affect any fine, lien, penalty, restitution, cost of imprisonment, tax liability or any other debt owed to the United States.

Defendant agrees to assist fully in the forfeiture of the foregoing assets. Defendant agrees to promptly take all steps necessary to pass clear title to the forfeited assets to the United States, including but not limited to executing any and all documents necessary to transfer such title, assisting in bringing any assets located outside of the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States, and taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed, wasted, hidden or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture. Defendant further agrees (a) not to assist any third party in asserting a claim to the forfeited assets in an ancillary proceeding, and (b) to testify truthfully in any such proceeding.

If the U.S. Attorney requests, Defendant shall deliver to the U.S. Attorney within 30 days after signing this Plea Agreement a sworn financial statement disclosing all assets in which Defendant currently has any interest and all assets over which Defendant has exercised control, or has had any legal or beneficial interest. Defendant further agrees to be deposed with respect to Defendant's assets at the request of the U.S. Attorney. Defendant agrees that the United States Department of Probation may share any financial information about the Defendant with the United States Attorney's Office.

Defendant also agrees to waive all constitutional, legal, and equitable challenges (including direct appeal, habeas corpus, or any other means) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this Plea Agreement.

Defendant hereby waives and releases any claims Defendant may have to any vehicles, currency, or other personal property seized by the United States, or seized by any state or local law

enforcement agency and turned over to the United States, during the investigation and prosecution of this case, and consents to the forfeiture of all such assets.

7. <u>Civil Liability</u>

This Plea Agreement does not affect any civil liability, including any tax liability, Defendant has incurred or may later incur due to Defendant's criminal conduct and guilty plea to the charges specified in Paragraph 1 of this Agreement.

8. Breach of Plea Agreement

Defendant understands that if Defendant breaches any provision of this Agreement, violates any condition of Defendant's pre-trial release or commits any crime following Defendant's execution of this Plea Agreement, Defendant cannot rely upon such conduct to withdraw Defendant's guilty plea. Defendant's conduct, however, would give the U.S. Attorney the right to be released from the U.S. Attorney's commitments under this Agreement, to pursue any charges that were, or are to be, dismissed under this Agreement, and to use against Defendant any of Defendant's statements, and any information or materials Defendant provided to the government during investigation or prosecution of Defendant's case—even if the parties had entered any earlier written or oral agreements or understandings about this issue.

Defendant also understands that if Defendant breaches any provision of this Agreement or engages in any of the aforementioned conduct, Defendant thereby waives any defenses based on the statute of limitations, constitutional protections against pre-indictment delay, and the Speedy Trial Act, that Defendant otherwise may have had to any charges based on conduct occurring before the date of this Agreement.

9. Who is Bound by Plea Agreement

This Agreement is only between Defendant and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. It does not bind the Attorney General of the United States or any other federal, state, or local prosecuting authorities.

10. Modifications to Plea Agreement

This Agreement can be modified or supplemented only in a written memorandum signed by both parties, or through proceedings in open court.

* * *

If this letter accurately reflects the agreement between the U.S. Attorney and Defendant, please have Defendant sign the Acknowledgment of Plea Agreement below. Please also sign below as Witness. Return the original of this letter to Assistant U.S. Attorney Philip A. Mallard.

Sincerely,

JOSHUA S. LEVY

Acting United States Attorney

By:

Timothy E. Moran Chief, Organized Crime Gang Unit

Michael Crowley

Deputy Chief, Organized Crime Gang Unit

Timothy . Moran

Philip A. Mallard Philip A. Mallard

Assistant U.S. Attorney

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PLEA AGREEMENT

I have read this letter and discussed it with my attorney. The letter accurately presents my agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts. There are no unwritten agreements between me and the United States Attorney's Office, and no United States government official has made any unwritten promises or representations to me in connection with my guilty plea. I have received no prior offers to resolve this case.

I understand the crimes I am pleading guilty to, and the maximum penalties for those crimes. I have discussed the Sentencing Guidelines with my lawyer, and I understand the sentencing ranges that may apply.

I am satisfied with the legal representation my lawyer has given me, and we have had enough time to meet and discuss my case. We have discussed the charges against me, possible defenses I might have, the terms of this Agreement and whether I should go to trial.

I am entering into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and because I am in fact guilty of the offenses. I believe this Agreement is in my best interest.

Santo FELIBERTY

Defendant

Date: 10 6 2023

I certify that Santo FELIBERTY has read this Agreement and that we have discussed what it means. I believe Santo FELIBERTY understands the Agreement and is entering into it freely, voluntarily, and knowingly. I also certify that the U.S. Attorney has not extended any other offers regarding a change of plea in this case.

Thomas Kerner, Esq.

Attorney for Defendant

Date: 10-6-23